



COUNCIL DISTRICT

FRYE LIGHTS

APRIL 2006

VOLUME IV ISSUE 4



Serving

Bay Ho

Bay Park

Birdland

De Anza

Clairemont

Kearny Mesa

Linda Vista

Mission Valley

Mission Bay Park

Mission Village

Morena

Serra Mesa

In Celebration of Sunshine Week

This year's Sunshine Week, from March 13-17, provided us all with the opportunity to celebrate and recognize the importance of open and accountable government, and the public's right to know.

Below is an editorial from The San Diego Union-Tribune that Mayor Sanders and I wrote for Sunshine Week. I hope that it is helpful and informative. Please feel free to contact my office with any comments or suggestions that you may have regarding open government in our city.

Sincerely,

Donna Frye

SUNSHINE WEEK: YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW — *Opening up government in San Diego*
By Jerry Sanders and Donna Frye, March 15, 2006

"Sunshine Week provides us all with the opportunity to celebrate and recognize the importance of open government, or "sunshine," laws at all levels of govern-

Continued on page 3...

ATTENTION!

The Serra Mesa Community Council was scheduled to host Councilmember Frye and Mayor Sanders at their April meeting. However, due to a recently scheduled community budget forum, their appearance at the Serra Mesa Community Council meeting has been rescheduled to May 31st. (Please see the article to the right.)

A **citywide community budget forum** will be held on **April 26, 2006** at the newly renovated **North Park Theatre located on University Avenue, just west of the 805**. It will be **between 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm** and will consist of a short presentation by the Mayor and/or financial management team, followed by public comment.



There is a large parking structure next to the theatre, and a negotiated flat public rate of \$2 has been set.

Councilmember Frye strongly encourages your attendance and comments at this meeting.

Serra Mesa Community Council Special Meeting

Councilmember Frye and Mayor Sanders will be hosting a forum at a special meeting of the Serra Mesa Community Council to be held on May 31, 2006.

As you may know, the meetings are regularly held on the 4th Wednesday of each month. The Community Council has changed the date for the May meeting only.

The meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 pm and take place at the Taft Middle School Auditorium.

For more information, contact Serra Mesa Representative Kristin Camper-Wozniak at (619) 533-6460.

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I Love A Clean San Diego's 4th Annual...

...2006 Creek to Bay Cleanup

The 4th Annual Creek to Bay Cleanup is just around the corner. I Love A Clean San Diego is currently looking for sponsors, site captains and volunteers to help make this their most successful event yet! All participants will receive t-shirts, an invitation to a post-event celebration, raffle tickets and much more.

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers and sponsors, last year's event resulted in an estimated 102,000 pounds of debris. They had the help of just over 2,500 volunteers and together they cleaned-up 41 sites, along beaches, waterways, canyons and streets, tended to native trees, storm drains and many other much needed tasks.



This year, Councilmember Frye's Clairemont Representatives will be serving as site captains for one of the locations. Please visit the Creek to Bay Cleanup website, www.creektobay.org/register.cfm, to obtain your volunteer waiver form. Then, contact Keith Corry at (619) 533-6463, or Mary Ann Kempczenski at (619) 236-5996 for more information.

21st Annual Linda Vista Multicultural Fair!

If you haven't had an opportunity to make it out to the annual Linda Vista Multicultural Fair & Parade, here's your chance!

This wonderful event brings together people of all cultures and celebrates the community's diversity while introducing attendees to ethnic foods, music and cultural showcases.

The Fair will also include a "Kid's Zone," "Teen Spot," and a "World's Arts Village" featuring international folk art. With so many different exhibits, there's something for the entire family.



As in previous years, Councilmember Frye will ride in the parade, as well as emcee the Art & Essay Contest.

This year's Fair will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2006 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm on the 6900 block of Linda Vista Road.

For more information, contact Sarah Granby at (858) 560-0871 ext. 108 or email Sarah at director@lindavistafair.org. You can also visit the Fair's website at www.lindavistafair.org.

Community Member Spotlight: Judy Bramer

The District Six Community Member Spotlight celebrates Judy Bramer for her continued involvement in our communities.

This year, Judy will be receiving the State of California Legislature's Woman of the Year Award by Assemblymember Lori Saldaña, an award that Councilmember Frye was honored with last year by Senator Chris Kehoe.



Judy served as the president of Clairemont Community Town Council for a number of years. In her role as president she was successful in getting many notable community figures and political leaders to speak with the Town Council membership about a variety of interesting topics. Her focus was always to educate and keep her community informed about the relevant issues and events affecting the Clairemont community.

Thank you for all your hard work Judy!



Continued from page 1...



ment. These laws provide the public with a voice in how local, state and federal governments make decisions and conduct business on behalf of the people they are elected to represent. They are also the basis for the broad legal protections we enjoy to access information from our government.

During the recent mayoral election, we both recognized that many of our city's problems were made worse by a culture of secrecy that existed within our city government. We both agreed it was long past time to start being brutally honest with the public about the true state of the city, especially regarding our finances.

We also recognized that a good place to start was the annual budget because the taxpayers have a right to know how their money is spent. In the past, the annual budgets did not represent the "real" amount of money needed to adequately fund all city departments. This year, we will change that and pass an honest and easy to understand budget that represents the true cost of city services. Moreover, we have established a budget schedule to ensure that the public has a real voice in the process.

One of the most important laws that citizens have at their disposal is the Ralph M. Brown Act. The purpose of the Brown Act is very simple - to ensure the accountability of government officers and to enable citizens' oversight of government agencies by keeping official decision-making processes as open as possible to public knowledge and participation. The Brown Act's preamble states, "The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created."

An informed and politically active public is a crucial

part of the democratic process and helps ensure that government officials remain accountable to the people they serve. The Brown Act protects the public's right to know and its ability to meaningfully participate in government.

The City of San Diego has started a process to change how it conducts the public's business. A series of ordinance changes took place in March 2004 that addressed closed session meetings, including the requirement that all closed session meetings would be transcribed; that detailed descriptions of all closed session items be provided to the public; and that the public be provided the opportunity to speak on all closed session items. The ultimate goal was to ensure that closed sessions were the exception to the open meeting requirements, not the rule.

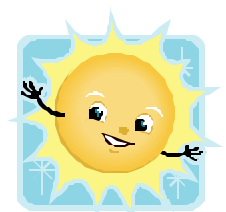
Additionally, a "right-to-know" ballot measure was approved by over 80 percent of the voters in 2004. This ballot measure was written with the belief that the public has a right to a government that is open, responsive and accountable to the people it serves and that the public, not the politicians, should decide on the people's right to know. The right-to-know ballot measure allows the citizens of San Diego to know what their government is doing, how decisions are made and what information was used to make those decisions. This helped create a more open government, by requiring public officials to make it easier for the public to access information and obtain documents. The burden is on the government to show there is a real and legitimate need for secrecy before any requested information is kept secret.

We are committed to working together to make city government open, accessible and transparent to the people of San Diego, not just during Sunshine Week, but every week of the year. For more information about the budget schedule, City Council meeting dates and times and how you can participate, go to www.sandiego.gov.

For more information on Sunshine Week, visit the website dedicated to your right to know at:

www.sunshineweek.org

The site provides information from implementation resources to what others are doing around the country. Councilmember Frye encourages you to become familiar with Sunshine Week and to get involved in open government.





It's Time For the District Six Annual Community Cleanups!

It's that time of year again! Preparations for the Clairemont and Serra Mesa Community Cleanups are in full swing and we're counting on you to help welcome spring by taking part in your local community cleanup.

Clairemont

Clairemont's Annual Spring Cleanup will be held at three locations within the community from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, April 8th.

This year's event is organized by Councilmember Frye's Office, the Clairemont Town Council and Pacific Waste Services.

Please join us at one of the following three drop-off locations:

Clairemont Town Square (behind Vons)
Mesa College Parking Lot 3 (East Side of Campus)
Crown Books (Clairemont Drive & I-5)

For more information on the Clairemont Cleanup, please call Clairemont Representative, Mary Ann Kempczenski at (619) 236-5996.

Serra Mesa

The Serra Mesa Cleanup will be held at Taft Middle School from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday, April 29th.



The event is being coordinated by Councilmember Frye's Office and the City's Environmental Services Department. The Serra Mesa Community Council has also been helpful in organizing this event.

For more information on the Serra Mesa Cleanup, please contact Serra Mesa Representative, Kristin Camper-Wozniak at (619) 533-6460.

Due to the limited number of bins, materials will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. As always, please limit materials to appropriate objects only. The following lists are good guidelines to determine what materials/objects are acceptable.



Bring

Green Waste
Old Junk
Furniture
Office Equipment
Toilets & Sinks
(See page 5 for a free electronic waste recycling event!)

Do Not Bring

Fluorescent Light Tubes
Old Lighting Fixtures
Bicycles
Household Hazardous Waste
Motor Oil, Batteries, Tires
Paint & Construction Debris
All Electronic Equipment
Refrigerator

If you are available to help sort through unwanted treasures and answer questions from participants at any of the above times or locations, please contact the appropriate representative listed above.

Thanks to all of the volunteers from previous years, these events have always turned out successful. We look forward to seeing you out!



Audit of Water & Sewer Rate Increases

On March 22, 2006, at Councilmember Frye's request, the city committed to auditing the water and sewer enterprise funds. The audit will examine whether the funds were used for purposes other than water and sewer infrastructure improvements.

Councilmember Frye was quoted as saying, "The public has a right to know if they were told the truth about how their water and sewer fees were spent. If taxpayer dollars are being spent inappropriately, it is the responsibility of city leaders to put an end to it."

Councilmember Frye has repeatedly requested an investigation regarding the use of the water and sewer funds, most recently in January 2006. The city's Chief Financial Officer, Jay Goldstone, has committed to selecting an auditing firm within the next month, and expects a full report to be available two to three months after it begins its work. Check future Frye Lights issues for more details.



17th Annual Earth Day Fair

The world's largest annual environmental fair and Earth Day celebration is finally here again!



Come celebrate Earth Day on Sunday, April 23, 2006 in Balboa Park. This event is sponsored by San Diego EarthWorks, a network of volunteers in service for a healthy, prosperous and sustainable future for all living things.

For more information or to learn how to be a vendor or volunteer, visit the Earth Day website at:

www.earthdayweb.org

Councilmember Frye encourages you to attend this wonderful event. See you on the 23rd!

10th Annual Clairemont Garden Tour

The Clairemont Town Council's 10th Annual Clairemont Garden Tour will be held on May 6, 2006 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.



The self-guided tour will include more than 15 gardens including waterfalls, streams, koi ponds and canyons as well as English and Mediterranean gardens that attract butterflies and a variety of wild birds.

Exhibits will be held by the Master Gardener Association, offering horticulture and pest control advice and the Master Composters will be providing compost information and instructions.



Free refreshments will also be available and the Clairemont Art Guild will be including a tour of their artwork.

Tickets with maps are \$10.00 per person and children under 12 are free. To get tickets by mail,



send a large stamped, self-addressed envelope and check made payable to the Clairemont Town Council to: Clairemont Town Council Garden Tour, PO Box 17793, San Diego, CA, 92177-7793. Tickets may also be purchased by check or cash at the UPS Store in Clairemont Square, located at 4809 Clairemont Drive.

Please visit www.clairemontonline.com or call (858) 831-9555 for more information. Be sure to take part in this wonderful celebration of Clairemont!

Free Electronic Waste Recycling Event!

Due to recent legislation, it is now illegal to dispose of electronic equipment in the trash. Take advantage of this free event to help keep electronic waste out of our landfills!

Saturday, April 29, 2006 - 9:00 am until 2:00 pm

Items Accepted

Televisions ~ Computer Monitors ~ Microwaves
Phones/Cell Phones ~ Pagers ~ Computers
Radios/Scanners ~ Cameras/Camcorders ~ Stereos
Fax Machines ~ Remotes ~ Copier ~ CD Players

No Batteries or Lights Bulbs!

For more location information, please contact Sara Giobbi at (619) 544-8764



March 13th Community Forum

On March 13, 2006, Councilmember Frye and Mayor Sanders hosted a community forum at Kearny High Educational Complex for the residents of District Six.

The Mayor took an hour and a half to tour the Sixth District with Councilmember Frye pointing out key locations in our communities. After the tour of each community in the District, they reached the Kearny Mesa Educational Complex at 5:00 pm to begin the forum.

Over 100 people attended the meeting and many provided comments to the Mayor and Councilmember. Much of the discussion focused on the upcoming budget deliberations.

As you may know, the budget process has changed with the implementation of the new strong mayor form of government. Mayor Sanders will unveil his budget on April 14. The City Council will then discuss the budget and make any appropriate changes by May 30. After the Council's deliberation period, the Mayor will have seven days to accept or veto the Council's changes. If the changes are vetoed, the Council can override his veto to pass a final budget.



In celebration of Sunshine Week, Councilmember Frye also took the time to recognize the Linda Vista Civic Association for their support last year of her efforts to open up city government to the public.

Mayor Sanders was quoted as saying, "Councilmember Frye and I are dedicated to working together to fix our city. Encouraging the public to participate in the upcoming budget discussions is one way we can make sure that the public is part of the solution to fixing our city's problems."

Councilmember Frye stated, "It is our goal to make the budget process open, accessible and easy to understand. We intend to do just that during this year's budget process."

Councilmember Frye would like to thank all of the citizens who attended this important meeting.

Cultural Diversity Social & Seminar

The Linda Vista Community Development Corporation is hosting another Cultural Diversity Social & Seminar and you're invited! This month's event will focus on the Philippines.



Please join the community on Tuesday, May 23, 2006 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at Bayside Community Center, located at 2202 Comstock Street in Linda Vista.

This event will include an interactive presentation by Mr. Allan J. Rubio and will introduce you to the culture, dance, music, language, history and rich traditions of the Philippines.

As always, the CDC offers these event free of charge, so make sure to schedule this one on your calendar. For more information, please contact Minou Sadeghi at (858) 576-9566 or email her at MinouESadeghi@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Mission Valley Library Events

The Mission Valley Library is hosting two exciting events for the month of April.

Adult Book Club

Monday, April 17, 2006, 6:30-7:30 pm

The Book Club will be discussing *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger. All are welcome to attend! Book Club members ask that you read the book before hand. Copies are available from the Circulation Desk while supplies last. Come join the discussion and have fun!



The Amazing Dana: Magic Show

Thursday, April 27, 2006, 11:00 am

Amazing Dana will perform a magic show with a reading theme. Children of all ages and their families are invited to attend and have fun! Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you've attended these events before, then you know what a great opportunity they are to meet neighbors and become familiar with the library. Have fun!



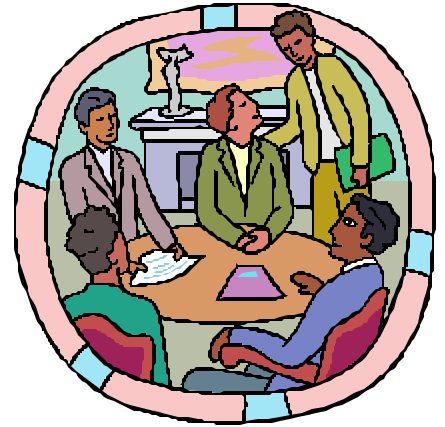


Serra Mesa Community Council Needs You!

The Serra Mesa Community Council is in need of a new secretary. This position will also be an appointment to the Community Council's Executive Board, and requires attendance at their monthly meetings. Basic responsibilities include recording meetings and handling correspondence.

Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm, in the ARC of San Diego building, located at 9575 Aero Drive in Serra Mesa. The Council hears issues ranging from neighborhood services to new programs and projects in the community. This is your chance to volunteer in your community and work with community leaders to make positive changes in Serra Mesa.

For more information, contact Les Williamson at (858) 278-8992 or email Les at lwilliamson@san.rr.com.



It's Almost Time for the Mission Valley Library RiverFest!



On Saturday, May 20, 2006 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, please visit the Mission Valley Library Garden, located at 2123 Fenton Parkway for the annual Mission Valley Library RiverFest.

Mark your calendar to explore San Diego's own secret garden and join the Friends of Mission Valley Library for a celebration of San Diego River Day. Live music and kids' activities will be provided, so there's plenty of opportunities for fun for the entire family!

You can reach the library via trolley, too. Take the trolley from Fenton Parkway to Rio Vista, Mission Valley or Hazard Center and enjoy a walk along the river. Trolley rides for kids under the age of 5 are free and two children under the age of 12 ride free with a fare paying adult. Unlimited all-day tickets for adults are only \$5, and seniors over 60 years of age and the disabled can purchase tickets for only \$2. Hop on and off as often as you like and take advantage of this great way to see the river.

For more information, please call (619) 236-7053 or visit www.sandiegoriver.org.

The Deadline Has Been Extended for the District Six "Celebrate Your Mom" Contest

Don't forget the perfect way to honor your Mom this Mother's Day is to enter her in the "Celebrate Your Mom" Contest held exclusively to recognize moms in District Six. The winning mom will receive a prize in time for Mother's Day and be recognized in June's Frye Lights!

To enter, send an essay (100 words or less) that describes your mom. Councilmember Frye will be accepting entries from people of all ages, so spread the word and get started on that essay!

Please mail all entries to 202 C Street, MS10A, San Diego, CA 92101 or send them to DonnaFrye@sandiego.gov, no later than April 15, 2006. Councilmember Frye looks forward to reading your wonderful entries!





It's Time for Little League!

On March 4, 2006, Councilmember Frye proudly attended opening ceremonies for Kearny Mesa and Clairemont Hilltoppers Little Leagues.



As President of the Clairemont Hilltoppers, Bill Salenius accepted a proclamation from Mayor Sanders and Councilmember Frye.

This year, the Hilltoppers celebrated their 50th year! In light of their achievements throughout the years, Councilmember Frye and Mayor Sanders honored their commitment to the community with a city-wide proclamation.

The day turned out beautifully with activities for Little Leaguers and their families, and food donated by a local restaurant. The US Navy's Parachute Team, the Leap Frogs, were also there to entertain the crowd with their incredible stunts.

The Clairemont Hilltoppers started their season off with a bang!

The Kearny Mesa Little League also had a great turnout for their opening ceremonies, and Councilmember Frye was accompanied by Supervisor Ron Roberts in throwing out the first pitch.

After recognizing their great sponsors, like Island's Restaurants and Big-O Tires, and honoring many of their hardworking staff for their year-round efforts, the Kearny Mesa Little Leaguers were eager to kick-off their season.

Councilmember Frye thanks both these wonderful organizations for providing an outlet for our community's youth and helping to channel their energy and creativity into a positive environment. Have a great season!



Councilmember Frye snaps a photo with Kearny Little League President, Jim Fox and his wife Sheila.

Celebrating Energy Week

Councilmember Frye presented a proclamation declaring March 6th through the 10th as Energy Efficiency Awareness Week in the City of San Diego.

The City has partnered with the US Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the US Green Building Council, California Flex Your Power and San Diego Gas & Electric to continue its leadership in energy conservation and its commitment to improving the energy efficiency in City facilities, which has resulted in avoiding 24 million kilowatt hours, saving \$3.5 million dollars each year and reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 12,037 metric tons.

Councilmember Frye is proud to be a part of this effort and anticipates this program to grow exponentially. Thank you to all of the great community partners who take the time to make this goal a reality.





Important Phone Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	858 495-7856
Animal Regulation	619-236-4250
Beach & Bay Advisory	619-235-1169
Birth and Death Records	619-237-0502
Brush Abatement	619-533-4444
Building Permits	619-446-5000
Buses/MTS Access	619-233-3004
Canyon Watchers Program	858 292-6484
City Council Docket Info	619-533-4000
City Directory	619-236-5555
Community Service Center	858 581-4111
Code Violations	619-236-5500
Curb Maintenance	619-527-7500
Dead Animal Removal	858 694-7000
Dog Licenses	619-767-2675
Fire Stations	619-533-4300
Graffiti	619-525-8522
Hazardous Materials Hotline	858 694-7000
Housing Commission	619-231-9400
Humane Society	619-299-7012
Libraries	
Balboa	858 573-1390
Clairemont	858 581-9935
Linda Vista	858 573-1399
North Clairemont	858 581-9931
Serra Mesa	858 573-1396
Litter Control	858 492-5010
Noise Regulation	619-236-5500
Office of Small Business	619-685-1390
Park and Recreation	619-525-8219
Parking Citations	619-236-7145
Police: Non-Emergency	619-531-2000
Pot Hole Hotline	619-527-7500
Recreation Centers	
Kearny Mesa	858 573-1387
Linda Vista	858 573-1392
North Clairemont	858 581-9926
Serra Mesa	858 573-1408
South Clairemont	858 581-9924
Tecolote	858 581-9930
Recycling Hotline	858 694-7000
Senior Citizens Services	619-236-6905
Serra Mesa Community Connection	858 565-2473
Sewer Repair/Spills	619-515-3525
Sidewalk Maintenance	619-527-7500
Stormwater Pollution Hotline	619-235-1000
Street Lights	619-527-7500
Street Sweeping	619-527-7500
Traffic Control	619-533-3126
Tree Maintenance	619-527-7500
Water Emergency	619-515-3525
Water Utilities	619-515-3500
Zoning Regulation Info	619-236-5555

District Six Community Meetings

Balboa Avenue Citizens Advisory Committee

Place: Clairemont Community Service Center,
4731 Clairemont Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Town Council

Place: Clairemont High School Cafeteria,
4150 Ute Drive
When: 1st Thursday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee

Place: Clairemont Friendship Senior Center,
4425 Bannock Ave.
When: 3rd Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Kearny Mesa Planning Group

Place: National University,
9388 Light Wave # 114
When: 3rd Wednesday/Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Civic Association

Place: Baha'i Center
6545 Alcala Knolls Drive
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Linda Vista Planning Group

Place: Linda Vista Library,
2160 Ulric Street
When: 4th Monday/Month
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Bay Park Committee

Place: Rotating Venue
When: 1st Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Community Council

Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 3rd Wednesday/Odd Months
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee

Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 1st Wednesday/Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Community Council

Place: ARC, 9575 Aero Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Planning Group

Place: Taft Junior High School,
9191 Gramercy Dr.
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.



Councilmember Donna Frye
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FRYE LIGHTS: CELEBRATING THE DISTRICT SIX SPIRIT



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